Message Text

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R 051619Z MAY 78 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9253 INFO NOAA ROCKVILLE MD

UNCLAS GENEVA 06853

NOAA FOR N.E. JOHNSON, IA

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: AORG, WMO

SUBJECT: PROPOSED 1979 WMO BUDGET

- 1. MISSION HAS REVIEWED EC-XXX/DOC 24 WHICH PROPOSES 1979 EXPENDITURE BUDGET OF \$15,531,700, AN INCREASE OF \$1,054,500 OR 7.2 PERCENT OVER THE PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED 1978 LEVEL. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE FOLLOWING POINTS BE REFLECTED IN THE US POSITION PAPER.
- 2. THE PROPOSED BUDGET IS WITHIN THE LIMITS SET BY THE LAST CONGRESS PLUS THE TWO FLEXIBILITY CLAUSES FOR COST INCREASES. HOWEVER, REFERENCE MIGHT BE MADE TO THE FACT THAT THE FLEXIBILITY CLAUSES ARE PERMISSIVE AND NOT MANDATORY AND THAT IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE FOR WMO TO ENDEAVOR TO ABSORB SOME OF THE COST INCREASES BY SAVINGS WHERE POSSIBLE AND/OR BY DEFERRAL OF LOWER-PRIORITY PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES.
- 3. PROPOSAL WAS PRESUMABLY PREPARED WHEN EXCHANGE RATE USED BY GENEVA BASED UN ACTIVITY WAS 1.86. CURRENT RATE (FOR MONTH OF MAY AT LEAST) IS 1.93. UPDATED ESTIMATES MAY BE REQUESTED. UNCLASSIFIED

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- 4. THREE NEW POSITIONS ARE BEING PROPOSED. GIVEN THE SHARP INCREASE IN THE BUDGET, IT WOULD SEEM SENSIBLE, AT A MINIMUM, TO DEFER CONSIDERATION OF THESE PROPOSALS UNTIL A FOLLOWING PERIOD.
- 5. TECHNICAL COOPERATION, REGIONAL AND TRAINING PROGRAMS,

PAGES 59-69, INCREASE FROM \$1,285,000 IN THE 1978 APPROVED BUDGET TO \$1,568,700 IN 1979. MUCH OF THIS MAY BE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. GIVEN THE FIRM US POLICY TO OPPOSE INCREASES IN REGULAR BUDGETS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, THE PROPOSED INCREASE MAY WARRANT CLOSE EXAMINATION.
6. EXCEPT FOR \$2,500 IN MISCELLANEOUS INCOME, THE ENTIRE PROPOSED EXPENDITURE BUDGET IS TO BE FINANCED FROM ASSESSMENTS. IN PREVIOUS YEARS, SOME FUNDS WERE ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE GENERAL FUND. QUESTIONS MIGHT BE ASKED ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF GENERAL FUND RESOURCES FOR 1979.

7. SOUND ANALYSIS OF PROPOSAL IS MADE MORE DIFFICULT BY ABSENCE IN DOCUMENT OF CURRENT 1978 FIGURES. VANDEN HEUVEL

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